

U.S. Army Enlistment Incentives

As of Aug. 8, 2005

Incentives are subject to change. Ask your local recruiter for the latest information.

Active Army Incentives

Minimum \$5,000 bonus for all qualified recruits

All qualified recruits who enlist for three or more years in the active Army in any military occupational specialty are eligible for an enlistment bonus of at least \$5,000. This bonus may be combined with all existing enlistment bonuses. This bonus was implemented in May 2005.

Maximum Active Army enlistment bonuses

The maximum combination of cash bonuses for an enlistment of four or more years is \$20,000.

The maximum for a three-year enlistment is \$10,000 for most of the Army's more than 150 entry-level jobs.

The maximum for a three-year enlistment in some high-priority jobs is \$20,000 (as of April 2005). (The previous maximum was \$17,000.)

The maximum bonus for a two-year enlistment is \$6,000.

4-year	Maximum	Date of Increase
	\$20,000	November 1999
	\$12,000	March 1997
	\$8,000	October 1995

High Priority MOSs

3-year	Maximum	Date of Increase
	\$20,000	April 2005
	\$17,000	February 2005
	\$15,000	August 2004

Before August 2004, the maximum was \$6,000.

Most all other MOSs

3-year	Maximum
	\$10,000

2-year	Maximum
	\$6,000

National Call to Service 15-month plus training option

Individuals who enlist for the 15-month plus training option will be eligible to select one of the following enlistment incentives:

- a cash enlistment bonus of \$5,000 payable upon completion of the initial active duty obligation;
- Student Loan Repayment of up to \$18,000;
- a monthly education allowance for up to 12 months (\$816 per month*); or
- a monthly education allowance for up to 36 months (\$408 per month*).

** monthly payment based on current 2-year Montgomery GI Bill rates and subject to change*

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Maximum amount for Active Army seasonal bonuses

Bonuses range up to \$14,000 depending on the priority of the MOS. The current range is \$1,000, \$3,000, \$6,000, and \$14,000.

(The previous maximum was \$10,000.)

These bonuses are for applicants with and without prior service who enlist for three or more years.

Qualifying jobs for a \$14,000 bonus

The following jobs qualify for the \$14,000 seasonal bonus.

Qualifying MOSs are as of 19 April 05. MOSs subject to change based on Army requirements.

Fire Support Specialist (13F)
Explosive Ordnance Disposal Specialist (89D)
Petroleum Supply Specialist (92F)
Special Forces Candidate (18X)
Infantryman (11X)
Cannon Crewmember (13B)
Field Artillery Tactical Data Systems Specialist (13D)
Multiple Launch Rocket System Crewmember (13M)
Crypto Linguist-Analyst (98X)
Food Service Operations (92G)
Motor Transport Operator (88M)
Field Artillery Firefinder Radar Operator (13R)
Cavalry Scout (19D)
Satellite Communications Systems Operator-Maintainer (25S)
Air Defense Command, Control, Communications, Computers and
Intelligence Tactical Operations Center Operator/Maintainer (14J)

The above MOSs also qualify for the \$20,000 maximum combined bonus for a three- or four-year enlistment.*

** Excludes 89D, 98X which have a four-year minimum term of service, and 18X, 25S which have a five-year minimum term of service.*

Qualified recruits now will get at least a \$6,000 seasonal bonus for a three-year enlistment in most of the Army's 150's entry level jobs, if the recruit agrees to report for training prior to Sept. 30.

Seasonal	Bonus amount	Date of increase
	\$14,000	April 2005
	\$10,000	February 2005
	\$9,000	August 2004

Before August 2004, the seasonal bonus was \$7,000.

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Active Army Education bonus

Qualified applicants holding bachelors' degrees who enlist for two or more years in any MOS can earn \$8,000. Associate or two-year degree holders can earn \$7,000. Qualified high school graduates with 60 or more college semester hours can qualify for a \$6,000 bonus, and those with 30 to 59 college semester hours can earn \$3,000 for joining the U. S. Army.

The \$8,000 bonus for bachelor's degree holders and \$7,000 bonus for two-year degree holders who enlist for two or more years were both added in August 2004. There previously were no bonuses for recruits with those education qualifications.

Active Army Enlistment bonus combinations w/LRP, ACF

Most cash enlistment incentives may also be combined with either the Army's Loan Repayment Program or the Army College Fund, *but not both*. The Loan Repayment Program can repay up to \$65,000 in qualifying student loans, and the Army College Fund offers up to \$70,344 for higher education.

Army College Fund

The maximum benefit under the Montgomery GI Bill plus the Army College Fund was increased in August 2004 from \$50,000 to \$70,344 for persons who qualify for this program. The Army College Fund is available to active Army applicants who qualify for selected Army occupational specialties.

The Army College Fund amount is based upon the term of enlistment and the MOSs that are chosen at the time enlistment.

- 2-year enlistment - \$34,776
- 3 years - \$52,344;
- 4 years - \$66,744;
- 5-6 years - \$70,344 (the maximum)

Loan Repayment Program

The Loan Repayment Program offers eligible recruits who enlist for at least three years up to \$65,000 toward qualifying student loans. LRP eligibility expanded to all MOSs in April 2005.

Active Army Bonus for civilian skills

Qualified applicants who already have civilian skills that the Army needs may be eligible for a \$3,000 bonus.

Airborne training bonus

Qualified applicants who enlist for airborne training and a guaranteed airborne assignment in the active Army may be eligible for a \$3,000 bonus.

Active Army OCS bonus

All individuals enlisting for the active Army Officer Candidate School option are eligible for an \$8,000 bonus payable upon successful completion of OCS training and commissioning.

This bonus was implemented in April 2005.

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Payment of bonuses

Recruits who enlist for cash bonuses totaling more than \$10,000 will receive their initial payment of \$10,000 upon successful completion of initial entry training. The remaining bonus amount will be paid in annual increments. Previously, the initial payment was no more than \$7,000. Enlistment bonuses totaling less than \$10,000 will be paid in one lump sum upon successful completion of initial entry training.

Initial bonus payment was increased to \$10,000 in April 2005.

Assignment Incentive Pay

Recruits who enlist in the active Army for three or more years for a skill required by the Army's priority units and agree to be assigned to an Army-designated priority unit will be advised that upon completion of initial entry training, they may be eligible for the \$400 monthly assignment incentive pay for as long as they are assigned to an AIP unit (a maximum of 36 months or \$14,400).

AIP payments begin once the Soldier completes initial entry training and reports to his/her designated priority units.

Qualified recruits who participate in AIP remain eligible for cash enlistment incentives up to \$20,000, as well as the Loan Repayment Program up to \$65,000 or the Army College Fund up to \$70,000.

Assignment incentive pay is not an enlistment bonus incentive; it is available to new recruits at the time they complete basic combat training and advanced individual training. It is not retroactive.

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Army Reserve Bonuses

09L IRR Middle Eastern Translator Aide bonus

The enlistment bonus is \$10,000 for eligible individuals who speak certain Middle-Eastern languages and enlist as translator aides in the U.S. Army Individual Ready Reserve.

Seasonal	Bonus amount	Date of increase
	\$10,000	March 2005
	\$7,000	August 2004 (introduced)

Army Reserve maximum enlistment bonus (Non-Prior Service)

Qualified Army Reserve applicants without previous military service who enlist for six years may qualify for combined bonuses of up to \$10,000, depending on the Reserve unit vacancy and how quickly the individual can report to training.

Army Reserve Soldiers also must agree to remain in the Inactive Reserve for two more years - a total obligation of not less than eight years.

Recruits without prior service who enlist for the new three-year Reserve enlistment option may also be eligible for enlistment bonuses of up to \$10,000, depending on the Reserve unit vacancy and how quickly the individual can report to training. Soldiers also must agree to remain in the Inactive Reserve for the remainder of their eight-year military service obligation.

The three-year enlistment option was implemented in April 2005.

Army Reserve Education bonus

Qualified non-prior service applicants holding bachelors' degrees who enlist for three or six years can earn \$4,000 if the Reserve unit has a priority vacancy. Associate or two-year degree holders can earn \$3,000. Qualified high school graduates with 60 or more college semester hours can qualify for a \$2,000 bonus, and those with 30 to 59 college semester hours can earn \$1,000 for enlisting in a priority Army Reserve vacancy.

These bonuses were implemented in April 2005. There previously were no bonuses for recruits with those education qualifications.

Army Reserve prior service enlistment bonuses

Individuals with prior military service who qualify and enlist for six years are eligible for a bonus of \$15,000; those who enlist for three years are eligible for a \$7,500 bonus.

Reserve Bonus for civilian skills

Qualified Army Reserve applicants who already have civilian skills that the Army Reserve needs and enlist for six years in a critical skill specialty may be eligible for a \$5,000 bonus.

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Reserve officer, warrant officer bonus

There is a \$6,000 bonus for qualified individuals who enlist in the Army Reserve for the Officer Candidate School (in an eligible Area of Concentration) or Warrant Officer Candidate Flight Training program.

This bonus was implemented in March 2005.

Reserve Student Loan Repayment Program

The Reserve Loan Repayment Program offers eligible recruits who enlist for at least six years in a Selected Reserve Troop Program Unit up to \$10,000 toward qualifying student loans. Selected job specialties offer up to \$20,000.

The Reserve Student Loan Repayment Program is also available to eligible recruits who choose the three-year enlistment option in a Selected Reserve Troop Program Unit. Eligible recruits can receive \$500 or 15 percent repayment on the outstanding balance of qualifying student loans (whichever is greater) for each year in the TPU, up to \$4,500. Selected job specialties offer up to \$9,000

Recruits will serve the remainder of their eight-year military service obligation in the Individual Ready Reserve.

Reserve Chaplain bonus

Individuals who enter the Army Reserve to serve six years as a Reserve Troop Program Unit Chaplain may be eligible for a bonus of up to \$6,000. The bonus is payable in a lump sum following the completion of the Chaplain Officer Basic Course, which must be completed within 36 months of commissioning.

This bonus was implemented in April 2005.